

Corporation for National and Community Service

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AWARD NOTIFICATION: SENIOR CORPS RSVP EXPANSION GRANTS

Background

Throughout the country, Senior Corps engages the skills, talents, and experience of more than 245,000 Americans age 55 and over to meet a wide range of community challenges through a network of three programs — the Foster Grandparent Program, the Senior Companion Program and RSVP. Through Senior Corps, older adults make a real difference through the lives of individuals and as they help increase the capacity of nonprofit organizations, community agencies, faith-based and tribal organizations throughout the United States. The Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) awards grants to these local organizations and public agencies to administer these programs.

RSVP strengthens public and nonprofit agencies by building the infrastructure needed to efficiently and effectively mobilize experienced and skilled volunteers with vital programs and services. One of the largest volunteer efforts in the country, RSVP engages more than 208,000 older adults, retired or not, who use their skills and life experience in volunteer service that helps solve challenges facing communities. RSVP volunteers serve in diverse volunteer roles that may include: intergenerational education; access to care including opioid abuse/prevention; transportation services that support aging in place; housing services and activities in evidence-based programs. Additionally, they help increase the capacity of local organizations by recruiting and managing other volunteers.

A primary goal for CNCS is to increase the impact and reach of national service in America's communities. In January 2017, Senior Corps opened the 2017 RSVP Expansion Competition with a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO). This national competition was an opportunity for communities—with no current RSVP program—to apply for funds and establish new programs that address national priorities. The response was tremendous. Requests for funding outpaced the available funding amount by more than five times resulting in a highly competitive applicant pool. In accordance with the criteria and process established by the NOFO, 50 were selected to be awarded grants. Together, these grants total a funding amount of \$5,370,177 for a total of 7,766 new RSVP volunteers.

Award Information

Recipient: Family and Community Services Inc.
705 Oakwood Street
Suite 221
Ravenna, Ohio 44266 - 2196
(330) 480-0352

Program Contact: Gerard T. Kelly, gkelly@fcsOhio.org

Award Amount: \$90,067 per year/3 years (pending annual appropriations)

Target Geography: Geauga and Wayne Counties, Ohio

Program Summary:

Family and Community Services Inc. oversees 71 human service programs throughout Ohio and lower Michigan and will recruit 215 RSVP volunteers to serve in Geauga and Wayne Counties. RSVP volunteers will: help low-income individuals and families gain access to health care through healthcare information distribution; increase food security through their service at food banks and food pantries; provide companionship and transportation to seniors and people with disabilities to help enhance their independence; and serve struggling students by volunteering as aides and mentors in schools and preschool locations. Additionally, volunteers will help support local non-profits by investigating and applying for new funding sources. At the end of the three-year grant, over 45 seniors will report increased social ties and social supports, 200 residents will experience greater food security and 73 at-risk children will receive academic support.